[1st March 1947

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Is it the practice to allow village munsifs to take contracts from Government? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" It is not generally the case. But, I am prepared to go into this matter and inform the hon. Member."

Steel tyres for bullock carts.

* 66 *Q*.—SRI K. NATARAJAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that single bullock carts for hire in Tanjore city have not been able to secure steel cart tyres for over six years past ; and

(*b*) whether representations have been received from such cartmen's organization and what arrangements have been made to meet their requirements?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" (*a*) Supplies of single bullock cart tyres for Tanjore were made during the several quarters commencing from period III/1944 (July to September). So far Tanjore has received 77 tons of this material and 35 tons have been allotted for the current quarter.

" (*b*) A representation was recently received by the Government from Tanjore Cartmen's Union that they were not able to secure cart tyres for over four years. The Director of Agriculture has been asked to take necessary action on the representation."

Prohibition scheme in the Province.

* 67 *Q*.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Hindu Religious Endowments be pleased to place on the table of the House the scheme to enforce Prohibition including the provision of counter attractions and the staff provided for the same?

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—" A note[a] on the scheme to enforce Prohibition including the provision of counter attractions and the staff provided for the same is placed on the table of the House."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether the Government have issued orders prohibiting the tapping of sweet toddy? "

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—" Yes, only in certain cases but not in all cases. There are districts in which tapping of sweet toddy was prohibited. In Salem and Coimbatore, it was allowed under special conditions, viz., it was allowed in the case of organized co-operative societies. Now so far as tapping sweet toddy from coconut trees is concerned, it is prohibited throughout but it is not so in the case of palmyras and dates provided it is done by organized co-operative societies."

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a Printed as Appendix I on pages 46—48 infra.